

# CITY OF JERSEY CITY

JERRAMIAH T. HEALY  
MAYOR



CITY HALL  
JERSEY CITY, NJ 07302  
TEL: (201) 547-5200  
FAX: (201) 547-4288

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Contact: Jennifer Morrill  
Press Secretary  
**201-547-4836**  
**201-376-0699**

## ***Mayor Healy, Municipal Council and City Officials to Cut Ribbon on New Shoe Repair Business 48 Years of Craftsmanship Being Brought to Jersey City through Giovanni D'Italia Shoe Repairs***

JERSEY CITY – **Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy**, members of the **Municipal Council**, and other city officials will hold a ribbon cutting ceremony at **10:00 a.m.** on **Monday, March 2, 2009** at **Giovanni D'Italia Shoe Repairs** at **121 River Drive**.

"We need to focus on our small businesses," stated **Mayor Healy**. "Small businesses aren't just the backbone of American society – they are the engine that drives our economy by creating much needed jobs in every community across the state and the country."

Since 1961, the Giovanni D'Italia Footwear Empire has become the distinctive and highly regarded shoe repair store in Hoboken. They will bring their artistry to Jersey City with the grand opening of their second store in Newport, Giovanni D'Italia Shoe Repair.

"I am particularly proud of opening Giovanni D'Italia Shoe Repair in Jersey City," said Marcus Thomas, partner of Giovanni D'Italia Shoe Repair. "Mayor Healy's staunch support and advocacy for Jersey City will surely help create long-term economic stability in the commercial, financial, retail, and residential sectors of this community and that is extremely important to the success of a small business such as ours."

Giovanni D'Italia Shoe Repair has employed four master shoe craftsmen for the past 15 years. They have 12 employees total.

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According to the United States Small Business Administration, small businesses provide economic opportunities to diverse groups of people and bring innovative products and services to the marketplace. Ninety-eight percent of businesses in the United States have less than 100 employees, 89 percent have less than 20 employees. Additionally, there are 25,000,000 small businesses in the United States, which employ over 50 percent of the private workforce.

**All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.**